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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 5270**  
Hideaki SHIBATA et al. : Docket No. 2004\_0490  
Serial No. 10/808,403 : Group Art Unit 2621  
Filed March 25, 2004 : Examiner Jose L. Couso

IMAGE CODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING  
AND DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING  
APPARATUS, AND IMAGE RECORDING  
AND REPRODUCTION APPARATUS

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated November 12, 2004, having a three month shortened-statutory period for response set to expire February 12, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows: